



John was born on 8 November 1855, the son of Magnus Mail and Eleanora Burnop, at Monkwearmouth, County Durham. He married Mary Ann Adamson.



"Polly" was born on 4 June 1858, the daughter of William Adamson and Mary Ann Robinson, at Bishopwearmouth, County Durham.



Polly with six children, from left to right John Stanley (Son), Ethel Mary (Dau), William Percy (Son), Marion Adamson (Dau), Muriel Adamson (Dau). Florence May (Dau),



Roecliffe Lodge, Corbridge.

Photographs from : **and Thanks to M. Jorgensen, of Courtenay, British Columbia, Canada, a descendant of John Adamson (1852-1933), and also to Brian W. L. Tod, of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, the grandson of William Leslie Tod and Marion Adamson Mail, for many of the details, and the photos, provided above**

DEATH OF MR MAGNUS MAIL.

Yesterday Mr Magnus Mail, of 17 Thornhill Terrace, Sunderland, died at Gainford, near Darlington, in consequence of a stroke with which he was seized on Saturday last.

Mr Mail was very well-known among seafarers of the old type and Presbyterians. Born in Shetland, he came to Sunderland when 19 years of age, and having served his apprenticeship as a sailor, quickly rose to the rank of captain, in which capacity he was master of Sunderland boats. Thirty-two years ago he retired from the sea to become superintendent of the vessels of Mr J. Westoll, of Sunderland, a line of steamers well-known in the Tyne. He was deeply interested in the North Bridge Street Presbyterian Church, and occupied the post of elder. He leaves a family of four sons and two daughters, all married, his wife having died over two years ago. The funeral will take place at Sunderland on Saturday.

Shields Daily Gazette Thursday 26th March 1903.

DEATH OF MR MAGNUS MAIL.

It is with regret we record the death of Mr Magnus Mail who succumbed this morning to a stroke with which he was seized on Saturday whilst staying at Gainford, near Darlington. Mr Mail was a gentleman very well known in Sunderland and elsewhere among the seafarers of the old type, and also among Presbyterians. He was born in Shetland, and came to this town when he was nineteen years old. He served his apprenticeship as a sailor and quickly rose to the position of master mariner. He was captain of vessels owned by the late Mr Herring of Southwick, and the late Mr Eggleston of Sunderland, and during his voyaging had many thrilling adventures, being once wrecked off Tynemouth and picked up by another vessel and taken to Leith. On another occasion he had the pleasure of being able to rescue the crew of a foundering boat named the British Flag.

Thirty-two years ago he retired from the sea, and became superintendent of the late Mr James Westoll's liners, and was one of the members of the firm. Mr Westoll and he were brothers-in-law, each having married a daughter of the late Mr Burnip, blacksmith, of Sunderland, whose business is, we believe, still carried on by members of the family at Tyne Dock. Mr Mail was a Presbyterian, and from his arrival in Sunderland was connected with the North Bridge Street Church congregation, being for some time one of the elders. He was in his 80th year, but enjoyed good health until Saturday. He leaves four sons and two daughters, all married, his wife having died two and a half years ago. The funeral will take place on Saturday, leaving the deceased gentleman's residence, 17, Thornhill Terrace, and the interment will be preceded by a service in the North Bridge Street Presbyterian Church.

Sunderland Echo Wednesday 25th March 1903.